

NO. 13 MAY/JUNE NO. 13 MAY/JUNE

SQUAT IT



wotz * * * happening

23/3 Squatters evicted in Glen Iris, yet again
it's a crime to be poor

29/3 A.V.Jennings evict squatters in Glen Waverley
and then trash it! Yet another dream home
bites the dust!\$\$

6/4 Rathdowne St gets run out after eight
months, the dozen or so police were only
a trifle insecure???????

16/4 At ALP conference on police powers
there was certainly no lack of police power
that day in Rathdowne St, guns n' all!!!!!!

16/4 Owner trashes skwot and foils potential
occupancy?!??!

19/4 New skwot opens in Braybrooke, not all
bad news, yay!!

20/4 We get told of a 20 yr old MT in Ferntree
Gully.

20/4 Womin opens skwot in Broadmeadows only to
get evicted by the ministry of housing
haven't they got it backwards? Aren't they
s'posed to house???????

26/4 MOH skwot opens despite MOH campaign to
Unhouse people!!!!

28/4 More skwots open in Broadmeadows. More and
more people are taking control of their
own housing!!!!!!!

29/4 Scare campaign forces askwatter to move
out and seek a new home!??

4/5 A womin opens a skwot in Dandenong while
another womin opens one somewhere else.

5/5 18 people evicted from a boarding house
in St Kilda(6 Balaclava Rd) to make way for
a school!?!? Maybe they can use their text
books to keep warm and dry this winter!?!?

7/5 KOORIES evicted by a gubament housing
organisation, Land Rights in action!?!?

11/5 Wimmins skwot in Nth Fitzroy.



SEND US YOUR ARTICLES AND/OR A
DOLLAR TO KEEP THIS AMAZING LITTLE
RAG HUMMING OFF THE PRESSES.....
...OR ELSE YOU'LL BE KIDNAPPED &
DRUGGED.....YOU DIDN'T THINK
SQUATTERS DID SUCH THINGS?...DON'T
YOU READ THE SUN?????



We have 22 enquiries and reports of MT's good
one !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

SU AIMS AND POLICY

- we are an organisation who aim to create and defend resident/community controlled housing.
- we have no leaders, all decisions are made thru consensus. Responsibilities are carried out on a voluntary basis by delegates who are answerable to the group.
- we are an autonomous group and remain independent of political parties, institutions, heirarchic unions and other organisations.
- we recognise the history of massacre and oppression of aboriginal people for land, and these peoples struggle for land rights and self determination.

WE AIM:

- to promote a clear understanding that it is the present system in which we live that creates homelessness.
- to promote solidarity amongst squatters, tenants and owner occupiers and to fight to abolish all authoritarian institutes such as the state (including it's socialist variety), capitalism, patriarchy and all heirarchic and oppressive divisions between people. We give solidarity to others involved in these struggles.
- to promote 'housing as aright' and to use all methods possible to combat homelessness and housing being used as a commodity.
- we aim for a free and equal society and to reflect these politics within the union.

EDITORIAL POLICY

***ALL contributions are welcome, however the SU asks that the interests of the Squatters Union be considered if you wish to have them published.

***To assist in fast production of this magazine we request you type, or prepare, your own contributions in 8cm columns. Due to limited time and energy, priority will be given to typed/prepared submissions.

*** The SU requires that ALL articles be non-oppressive (eg. non-sexist, non-racist, non-ageist etc)

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The collective in Action [days]

*** The editorial collective consists of the volunteers that produce the particular issue of Squat-It.

*** If the article/contribution is deemed unsuitable, the collective, when possible, will refer back to the author before publication. Otherwise it will be considered for the next issue.

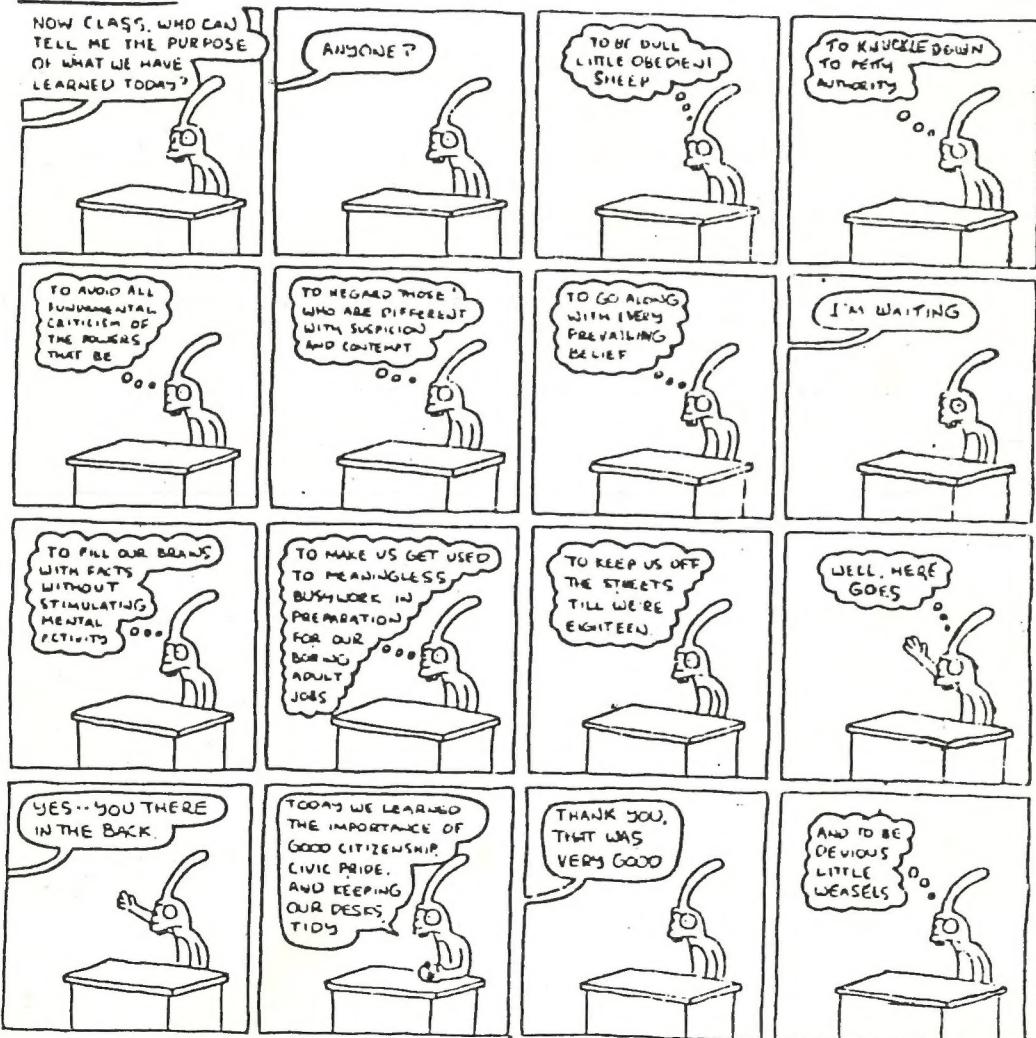
***THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN SQUAT-IT ARE THE VIEWS OF INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTORS AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE VIEWS OF THE SU!!!!

SAME OLD STORY....

On the 18th of March 6 people were booted out of a nice squat in Commercial Rd, Sth Yarra. Just 2 days bef re we were going to celebrate squatting it for a month, Land Creatures smashed in the back door.

He said "This house is mine, I want to show it to someone, so piss off by the morning", Ten minutes later....Pigs came and gave us an hour to "remove ourselves", causing much hardship for us.

The next week some of us and some other skwotars had a picket outside the Land Creatures place, BUXTONS, who have got as many branches as McDonalds over that side of town.





A POWERFUL MOVE.

The police would like us to believe they would be more helpful if they were given more powers. They would like the right to fingerprint you regardless and question you forever. If they have not proven over and over again how corrupt and abusive they are one might be inclined to believe they really do want to put rapists etc; behind bars, however they already abuse the powers they have to the maximum so why should they care about making it all legal? when they do more or less fingerprint you regardless anyway. It is clearly a political move. Once they have the right to do such things we are at their mercy. They are a powerful body and no body should have your fingerprints to play games with.

The majority of society would like living to be safer and so might believe this increase in powers is a positive move. However the problems in society (the violent crimes) are the most part the product of poverty, unemployment, broken homes, drug addiction and other social and economic ills, which the police do nothing or little about except irritate. How can fingerprinting and photographing people solve any of the above problems. If there are an increased number of people in jail, does that tell you how good the police are or how stuffed society is. Which problem is worth solving?

The police along with the Liberal Party are churning out huge doses of propaganda but instead of it being bias its straight out lies in their rally on Sunday the 10th of April

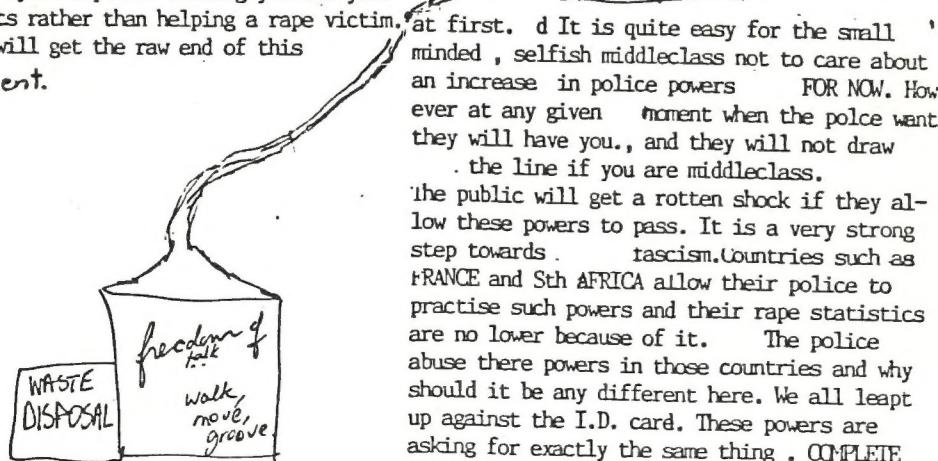
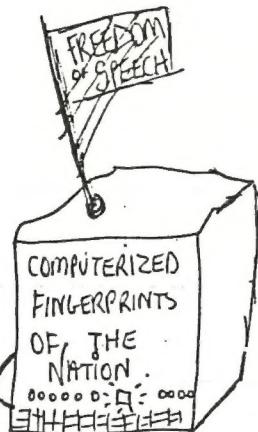
they were well equipped with a variety of sob stories coloured up with two victims sharing their experiences with us. The public were extremely susceptible to all this. It is hard not to feel sorry for a woman whose face is mainly scar tissue BUT it is important to realise that the police are not aiming to save her 'next time'. Not at all. For one they have decreased the size of their sexual assaults unit so this increased care is bullshit. Why

are they lying?

The police have the biggest media and public relations committee compared with any other company or department. Why? People who brush with the law see how unfair the police can be hence they spent million dollars in the 1986/87 Budget to say how good they are, rather than practising being fair which is by far the most effective form of public relations.

From my experience the police have rarely helped the well being of the citizen. They always seem present at evictions, enforcing the increased number of homeless. They are present to suppress free speech at demonstrations and are usually the first party to become violent. They are not very admirable. A specific example is how a policeman slashed my tyres with a knife before I went into Parliament House 1½ weeks ago. I was far too cheeky towards him after he told me to move my bike 10m for no reason at all.....20 dollars repair.

The police don't encourage freedom. Freedom NOT to beat up your neighbour but to live ungoverned and easy. If they have these powers then they will have the legal right to harass us to no end. They much prefer knowing you and your whereabouts rather than helping a rape victim. The poor will get the raw end of this harassment.



...ARRGH!...
...ANOTHER P.T.W.A.
FUNDRAISER FOR
SPARKS



AT:
THE LINCOLN HOTEL
CNR - CARDIGAN &
QUEENSBERRY ST'S
CARLTON

\$5 or \$3 conc.

SAT 11TH
JUNE
7PM ONWARDS

FOOD
MUSIC
ENTERTAINMENT



GO ON.

'PHONE
IN SICK!

DOLE TO BE ABOLISHED!

The Unemployment Benefit will soon no longer exist if the government goes ahead with its plans as outlined in the "Social Security Review - Towards A More Active System". The Dole will be replaced with a series of "payments" to further divide and categorise the Unemployed.

The divisions planned are;

1. JOB SEARCH ALLOWANCE (J.S.A.)

. For 16-17 year olds and 18-20 year olds who have worked for less than 6 months.

2. SHORT TERM EMPLOYMENT PAYMENTS

(STEP 1)

. For 21-54 year olds (and 18-20 year olds who have worked for more than 6 months) who have been unemployed for less than 12 months.

3. STEP 2

. For people over 55 to old age pension age who have been unemployed for less than 12 months.

4. LONG TERM EMPLOYMENT ADJUSTMENT PAYMENTS. (LEAP).

. For 21-54 year olds who have been unemployed or receiving another form of pension or benefit for more than 12 months.

5. TRANSITION AGE PAYMENT (TAP)

. For people 55 to old age pension age who have been unemployed or receiving another form of pension or benefit for more than 12 months.

WHAT THE CHANCES WILL REALLY MEAN!

The abolition of the word "benefit" and its replacement with "payment" is crucial.

CIVIL CONSCRIPTION: It is illegal to force someone to do work or training in exchange for a benefit, but legal

in the case of a payment. Under the proposed new scheme, training and work experience will be compulsory (Activities test). No job guarantee, no wage. This form of Civil Conscription is not new! In the '30's, there were "sustenance schemes" which were so inadequate, many people became physically emaciated as a result.

WOMEN: It is proposed that women be re-classified as "independent" rather than as dependant on a male partner. Women will not benefit, as the Dole will no longer exist, but there will be an increased supply of slaves for the system.

AWARD WAGE JOBS: There is no mention in the Review of an increase of full-time award wage jobs. No doubt, as has happened in the past, "training schemes" will replace paid work.
THIS IS WHY IT IS VITAL THAT THE EMPLOYED SUPPORT THE UNEMPLOYED IN OPPOSING THE PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE DOLE STRUCTURE.



The government has already begun changes with the abolition of the Under 18 Dole and its replacement with the Job Search Allowance. The knife is already in. Join with us! UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS ARE A RIGHT, NOT A PRIVILEGE!

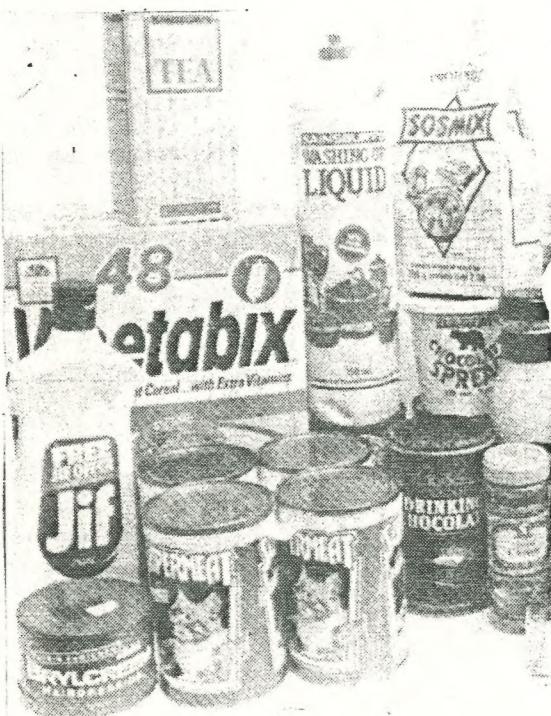
OUR DEMANDS ARE

- : END DISCRIMINATION AGAINST UNDER-21
- : NO CYSS CLOSURES
- : FULL WAGES FOR ALL
- : NO WORK FOR THE DOLE
- : NO CIVIL CONSCRIPTION
- : STOP DSS SNOOPING!

For more information, contact the Unemployed Workers' Union or the Squatters' Union of Victoria; 481-8097

"All this for nothing?"

Yes.



At Safeway's we know that good food has never been more important. Today's diet means less meat and dairy products, and fewer chemicals. That's good news for us, good news for other animals, and good news for the earth.

Fortunately good food has never been cheaper. For several years Safeway's have pioneered a new concept in consumer-choice. We call it SHOPPING WITHOUT MONEY. The idea is simple: food is a right, not a privilege. And we know that making millions by selling food, while three-quarters of the world starve, is immoral. All the more so, since those who make food, package it, transport it and sell it are usually overworked and underpaid.

Our answer is quite simple: under the SHOPPING WITHOUT MONEY scheme, if you see something you want, just take it. Some might call it shoplifting. We prefer to think of it as you taking back what is yours.

Good food costs nothing at Safeway's.

The SHOPPING WITHOUT MONEY scheme now operates world-wide, in all major shops and stores.



A DEVICE TO IMPROVE HEALTH

AND SAFETY.

WORKER'S HEALTH AND SAFETY ISN'T JUST A QUESTION OF "BEING CAREFUL", OR OF MAKING CHANGES IN OUR PERSONAL "LIFESTYLE". IT IS AN ISSUE WHICH INVOLVES THE ORGANISATION OF WORK AND THE PRESSURES PLACED UPON WORKERS BY THOSE WHO CONTROL THE PRODUCTION PROCESS.

PRODUCTION IS NOT DETERMINED BY WHAT IS SOCIALLY USEFUL, BUT BY WHAT WILL MAKE MONEY.

SO, CORPORATIONS SPEND BILLIONS ON WEAPONS OF WAR, NUCLEAR POWER, DANGEROUS DRUGS & CHEMICALS... INSTEAD OF ON ALTERNATIVE POWER TECHNOLOGIES, HEATING SYSTEMS, PREVENTATIVE HEALTH CARE...



VERY UNHEALTHY
AND
VERY UNSAFE

AFTER...



WHEN THOSE WHO ACTUALLY DO THE WORK ARE IN CONTROL OF THEIR WORK ENVIRONMENT, THERE CAN BE AN END TO THE SHORT-CUTS, COMPROMISES AND LACK OF CONCERN FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES WHICH OCCURS WITHIN THE PRESENT PRODUCTION SYSTEM.

SELF-MANAGED PRODUCTION, BASED ON THE FULL PARTICIPATION OF ALL IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS, THEREBY PRODUCING WHAT THE COMMUNITY NEEDS, CAN HELP PUT AN END TO THE UNSAFE AND UNHEALTHY ENTERPRISES OF ARMS PRODUCTION AND NUCLEAR POWER GENERATION (AMONGST OTHERS) THAT MUCH OF OUR SOCIETY IS PRESENTLY BASED ON.



THE SELF-MANAGED WORKPLACE

Walking to the march, Mayday '88, late again for the start but welcomed by the colour and people flowing over and down the hill. A good turn, as I watch this extremely meaningful crowd getting their ideas and expressions together into Solidarity.

Solidarity was the day, with even the planet in participation - a nice warm sun giving us its warmth to help us kindle our spirits together to show the rest that there is a lot of people dedicated in constant thought, striving towards better living for workers and peoples all over the world.

Down and through, along the streets, showing all those who stood to the side what it's like to be One. In and out of the city we marched. Taking turns to hold the banners, sharing opinions, encouraging chants, keeping the peace on our colourful wind of pageantry, and finally reaching a restful spot beneath the trees where food was served, support for causes was sold, and where people could take in the viewpoints of many varied speakers.

There was a lot happening, a lot to see and hear. There were old friends, from the past, from previous marches, from other places, with new stories to tell. There were new people to meet, to talk to, to bond with and to share.

There was so much going on, but not chaotic, rather, organised with everyone at least having a good idea of what to do, and how.

Mayday, Mayday, Hey what a day
Marchers, flags, banners
Messages for all
Talking, walking and all in
the sun
Illumination of a way of life
Colour streaming, screaming
Hopping from red to black
Hoping to change the scenery
Happenings, happiness
Lets not forget

MAYDAY - WORKERS PSALM SUNDAY???

or (MAYDAY - ANOTHER OPINION!)

So Mayday '88 has been 'and gone' and as the years go by so does it's similarity to the Psalm Sunday Rally increase.

Gone, and almost forgotten, (except for token lip service by the VIP speakers) are the true reasons for Mayday and the bloody and violent history of the militant workers movement of the 1880's.

These days the union' officials don't 'allow' a march on May1st, unless it falls on a weekend, in case they upset the bosses productivity and profit margin (and thus their own comfy positions).

Once again trust is being placed in the reformist unions that dominate and manipulate today's workers and when they speak at rallies such as Mayday, these puppets, these sellout 'executive' members are applauded and cheered.

For what?....for making deals with the govt and bosses that, on the face of it look great, but which inevitably involve tradeoffs in conditions and wages, which cost the workers more than they gain in pay??? The same mistake is being made today as was realised in the 1880's; that trying to improve our lives through negotiation and reform is futile and (now,as then) only Direct Action, initiated and controlled by the workers will gain us the conditions and wages we demand.

This year, at least, there was a spark of resistance. Due to May 1st falling on a sunday the anarchists (who consistently march on May 1st regardless of what day it is) found themselves able to join the mainstream march. But that

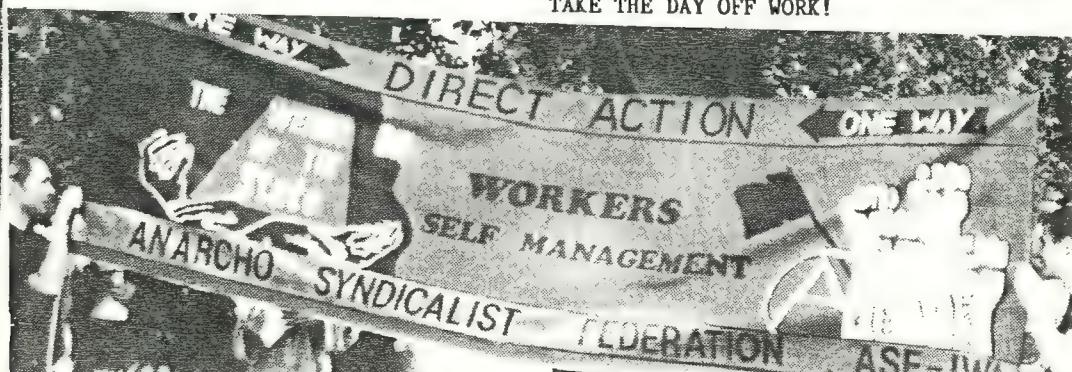
was where the similarity ended.

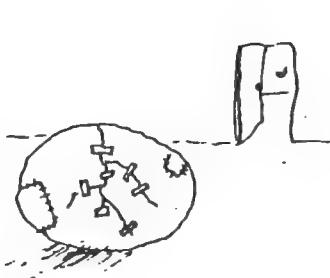
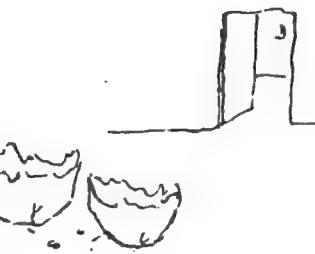
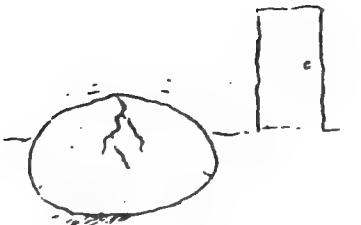
In answer to the dogmatic and robotic chants spewed out by groups such as the SLL and IS (who seem to need notes to refer to) the anarchists showed a spirited spontaneity and refused to submit to the concept of the 'peaceful' and 'dignified' [read: BOORING] march. Instead they sang, shouted, chanted and yelled, showing they had not forgotten the significance of Mayday; the winning of the eight hr day, but also that 3 of their comrades were hung to try and quell the increasing militancy of the workers in 1886.

It is people such as the Haymarket Martyrs and not the union beauracrats that we should thank for the work conditons we have now, and to them that we should look to find effective ways to combat the bosses greed and exploitation. They knew where the strength lay - not in the 'trade' (they trade our labour for their own gains) unions with their sellout executives, but with workers solidarity and direct action.

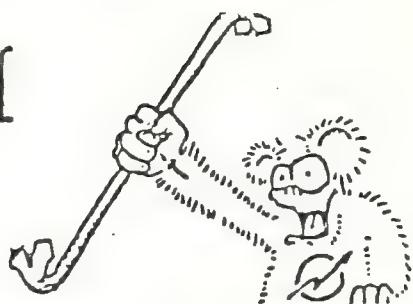
We should remember that it is the workers who suffered them and are suffering now. We must unite now to protect, first, what we have managed to gain, and to finish by winning the struggle in the way demonstrated by the workers in 1886. The best way to this is for workers to organise themselves at home and internationally to fight the state in all it's forms. This does not include aquiesing to a state dictated Mayday celebration.

Next year show strength through solidarity and direct action. Celebrate on May the 1st, present your demands, and TAKE THE DAY OFF WORK!





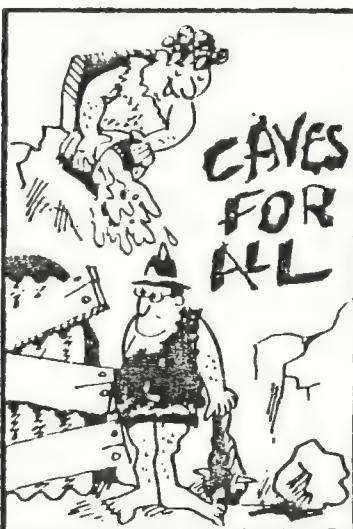
NEWS FROM BRISBANE



Development based around Expo 88 has caused massive upheaval within the local community and has inevitably led to evictions, huge rent increases, and people being 'economically' forced out of their communities.

The formation of a Brisbane Squatters Union by residents of Westend, Highgate and Hillend has led to the successful squatting of 2 buildings and started what could become a strong Direct Action movement to reclaim the right to housing and oppose the destruction caused by Expo. (Already in these 3 suburbs alone there have been 91 Expo related evictions and rent increases of up to 60% over the last year!)

The first squat lasted 10 days before it was evicted by the owners backed up (what's new?) by the state thugs. It was a very public squat with plenty of media and local support. A telephone tree for eviction support was organised and worked well, getting 15 people to the eviction within 30 minutes.

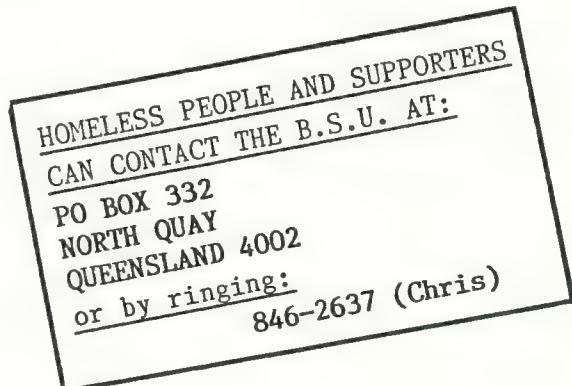


A re-occupation of the premises by a coalition of 3 Brisbane Groups [Catholic Workers, Justice Products and the Rainbow Alliance] has been successful and 32 Sussex St Westend now operates as a community focal point/meeting place and provides emergency accommodation to a few of the growing number of homeless people in Brisbane.

Two other houses were also squatted and one, a diseased estate, now has (in writing) a free rent-caretaking agreement between the occupants and the owner.

The other squat has not been so lucky however, and 3 people have fines of up to \$100 after an eviction by over zealous railway coppers.

Meanwhile, people have occupied caves at Mt Etna to stop their destruction by Central Queensland Cement Ltd, which threatens the habitat of 2 rare species of bat. An accident has seen one cave squatter hospitalised with a broken ankle and back injuries. In spite of this, morale remains high and the occupation continues.



WORK OR DOLE NOT FOR DOLE

FEELING BORED?, DOWN AND OUT?, UNDER PRESSURE COS YOU HAVEN'T GOT A JOB.,

GOOD NEWS!!!!

THE FEDERAL GOVT'S ALL NEW COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER PROGRAM (CVP) WANTS YOU!

NOW ALL THE IDLE UNEMPLOYED WILL BE ABLE TO WORK FULLTIME - FOR NOTHING!!

EXCITED,,.....WE THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE!

The CVP is a 'voluntary' program aimed at teaching workers new skills so that they can get out there in the labour force and compete better for all those jobs that aren't there. It is, of course just another ploy by the govt to reduce the unemployment figures and at the same time keep up the myth that the unemployed are to blame for their plight. (This time by saying that we lack the skills needed to compete in the modern labour market.

And as serious as the implications of the Community Volunteer program are, it is nothing compared to the changes the govt plans to inflict on the unemployed this year.

If we look back at the not too distant past, it is easy to see the moves made by the profit-mongers (thru manipulation of the govt puppets) towards a more exploitative dole system: first they sent in the DSS Hit Squads to snoop and pry into our personal lives, then they cut the under 18 dole by half, forcing the unemployed youth to try and exist on \$25 dollars per week. (perhaps in an attempt to 'eliminate' child poverty?!). Alongside this has been the slow closure of CYSS (Community Youth Support Schemes) centres, first the more radical ones, soon it will be the others, - all to be replaced with the 'glorious' CVP Schemes.

All along, the CVP and 'training' schemes have merely been softening up exercises for the ultimate introduction of 'WORK FOR THE DOLE'. Voluntary programs were a good way to get people used to the idea of doing a (usually fully waged) job for nothing more than the equivalent of the dole. (The cutting of the Under 18 dole was considered an excellent incentive for young people to join the training schemes



Not satisfied with robbing thousands of unemployed of the pitiful allowance grudgingly imparted to us, through Hit Squad harrassment and unfair 'means' & 'activity' testing, the government and bosses now want to go the whole hog and intend to make these schemes COMPULSORY by incorporating them into the Activities Test. This will require all unemployed...."to participate, or be willing to participate in a relevant labour market program; job 'training' or job 'experience'. They, of course, will decide what is relevant.

These latest attacks on the unemployed are suggested and justified by the latest 'Social Security Review' (Towards A More Active System), one of an endless series of investigations into how best to exploit the unemployed workforce. The report of course keeps to the (party) line of 'blaming the victim' and it's suggested "more active system" is equivalent to conscript labour.

The unemployed, especially long term 'unemployed, are viewed (in the report) at best, as able-bodied ignoramuses who need to be retrained (read:reprogrammed), or worse still, as apathetic, disillusioned and non-active individuals who 'need a break'...and they've got JUST the thing!

And thus the ULTIMATE SOLUTION becomes a reality - Work For The Dole - forcing unemployed into conscript labour schemes to do what was once fully waged jobs in exchange for the dole, changing the benefit from what was once a right to a privilege you have to perform for.

The SS Report goes on and attempts are made to sugar coat the poison with suggestions that women should be seen as 'independent and that activity testing on over 55's be eased. It is not too hard to see through these proposals in that an independent workforce of womyn would increase the exploitable labour force by vast amounts and they (after instituting Work For The Dole) can obviously relax on the over 55's who are worn out after a lifetime of exploitative work practises at any rate (no offence intended).

This new 'super-cheap' workforce will have far reaching effects on both the unemployed AND the employed and directly threatens both workers wages and job security, not too mention the unemployed's tentative grip on survival. We only have to look as far as England to see the devastating effects Work For The Dole schemes have on workers rights and jobs. Most bosses will be more than pleased to replace any 'troublesome' workers with a few conscripted trainees. And, of course the creation of 'trainee' positions will automatically lead to the loss of full time, fully waged jobs in most industries as will it also lead to the undermining ,and probably cutting, of workers wages.

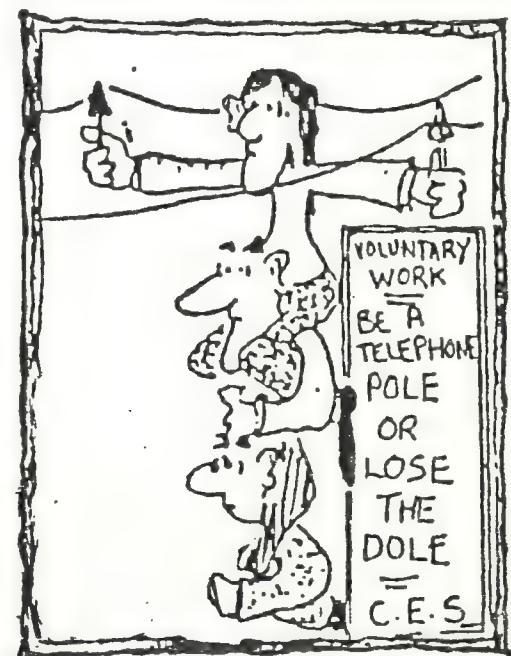
It is obvious that any such attempts to exploit the unemployed and pit one worker against another, manipulating us like pawns in their profiteering power games, must be resisted with all our combined strength.

All unemployed must point blank refuse to participate in 'scab' schemes. Only schemes that garuantee full time, fully waged work at the finish should be accepted and then only if a full wage is paid during the training.

But to be effective these boycotts and demands must be supported fully by

the workers. Complete boycotting of, and Direct Action against, these slave schemes, supported by sympathetic stop-works, go slows, sabotage and even strikes will ensure that the bosses and their govt puppets will not succeed in applying these proposed repressive and exploitative dole changes.

Only through Direct Action and Solidarity can we hope to stop the vicious attacks on unemployed and employed alike



THE N.U.U.P (NATIONAL UNION OF UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE) HAS INITIATED THE BEGINNINGS OF RESISTANCE TO THE PROPOSED WORK FOR THE DOLE BY CALLING FOR A NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION FOR BY THE UNEMPLOYED.

IT IS TO TAKE PLACE ON THE 24TH OF MAY (THE DAY BEFORE THE MAY MINI-MINI BUDGET AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CHANGES) AND WE INTEND TO SHOW VERY CLEARLY OUR OPPOSITION, AND THAT WE ARE NOT GOING TO TAKE THE SHIT THE RICH PIGS ARE TRYING TO PUT ON US.

SOLIDARITY ACTIONS BY WORKERS ARE NECESSARY TO STRENGTHEN OUR DEMANDS FOR REAL JOBS FOR REAL WAGES, AND A FULL WAGE FOR THE UNEMPLOYED!!

For more info check advert in this Squat-It or call the Squatters Union on 481-8097 between the hrs of 12 - 4:30. MON - FRI.



Victoria Hotel Police Riot...

Did you know that having a good time was illegal in Brunswick? well the cops reckon so anyway. Sat. Night[7/5] saw the latest women's band playing at the Victoria Hotel...the energy was good and everybody was having a good[the band had just finished their last number when who should walk in the door? 8 beef head boys in blue... they mingled through the crowd, you know the old push someone up against the wall and "what's your address girlie?" number. They then went outside and it appeared they had left...then re-enter the arseholes...poking people in the chest, demanding names and addresses [wearing no numbers of course.] When people dared to question what they were doing they were told to step outside, when they did so they were arrested for being drunk in a public place... into the paddy wagon[after being bashed round a bit].

5 people were arrested by then: 10 and 4♀ one of the women was intellectually disabled and hadn't had a drink all night. Meanwhile 50 women arrived to support their friends...They asked why there had been arrests, why the police had even come to the pub in the first place and what was going to happenthere were no answers...so we blocked the paddywagon's path - the police barged in with their usual brutality arresting 2 more.

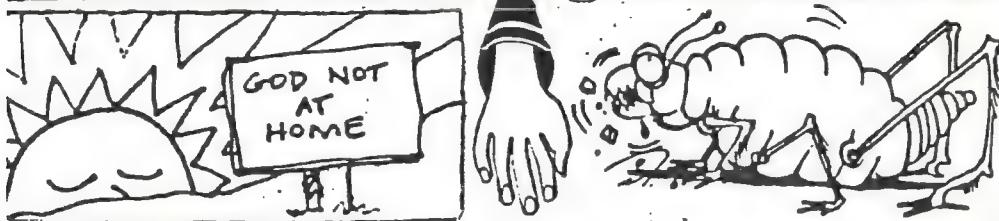
So we waited...no information was given inside or outside except for one ♀ who was told she was arrested for "being a drunken lesbian slut". No-one was given phone calls or anything to drink, one woman had a severe asthma attack but the cops refused to give her back her medication and the women who asked for breathalyzer tests were refused

The cops seemed to amuse themselves for a few hours by watching the women on close circuit TVs, making frequent 'you fat ugly bitch' type comments. Eventually 2 women were released and were told to leave the area within 5 minutes or they'd be re-arrested.... then at 5.30 am the others were released ...individually of course just for extra intimidation...

So now we can all see why the police need more powers... so they can legally kill and rape people in custody. This goes on all the time for minority groups ... basically they'll arrest you if you are a woman, gay, squatter, a Koori, activist, working class, in a union, an asian...a woman not carrying a hand bag, a man not in a tracksuit, an asian in a new car.... If you want to find out more you can call us at Switchboard, 329 8515 and leave a message...to find out what's happening with court cases etc.....



CREATIVE ACTION



THE
EMPRESS

Throo windows stream the orange nights
And land in pools reflective
Warm and timid candles pray
while shadows meld and shiver

The Empress glows alive in thought
and radiates soft gracely grooves
And welcomes all who dream alive
and fight for what is theirs

Breezes filter throo a strain of glass
Doors and bars that hold death out
Complex vibes engulf all there
and weave them through their life

Laughter giggles with electric sounds
an atmosphere eternal
Culture covered painted walls
where silence quietly mingles

A place that gives and creates a node
to all who live and visit
Nomadic numbers assures no count
so all can find their wonders
Go now if you want to go
for she will not always be there
To find the presence in an offering
is to find a welcome

THURS NITES
253
WELLINGTON
ST
COLLINGWOOD



SMACK CITY BLUES....

Well it's been a few months now since Footscray was officially declared smack city by Melbourne's media and local residents were faced with the amusing spectacle of the local mayor holding up a handful of fits on the National News [nothing what so ever to do with his re-election campaign of course]

Well locals have now renamed the charming suburb, pig city, due to a series of special police campaigns to stamp out 'our' drug problem, involving up to 70 police on the streets at any one time and even local dignitaries like Comrade Mildenhall [the ALP mayor] joining in their violent rampages around the shopping center here. Local residents have over the last few months been continually harassed by these violent, armed outsiders who wish to make sure the streets aren't safe to walk at night... The special anti-Vietnamese taskforce, Bao Ve, has been especially prominent in being racist thugs

harrassing young asian people on the streets for no apparent reason but the pigs have shown their reknowned anti-racism by bringing in another undercover taskforce to harrass everyone equally, regardless of ethnic background

Of course the local council is dreadfully concerned [about property values] and is so refusing to install rubbish bins in streets where people do hit up so that kids can't play with the fits.

Anyway there's still lots of empties out here except no-one particularly wants to end up in the Footscray cop shop merely for putting an empty house to use and the noise pollution out here from the police helicopter is pretty unbearable in any case.....

PS how do you know there's a crime wave?

When your Neighbourhood Watch Bulletin reports on a break in where there was no damage merely a lock changed... pretty heinous crime, eh?

...MEANWHILE... SOMEWHERE IN THE WEST...

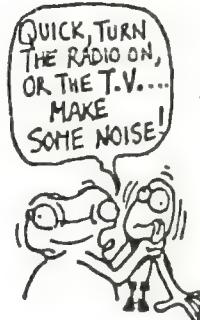
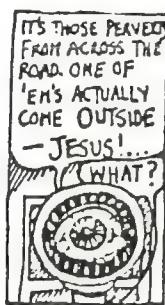


IF YOU ARE VISITED BY A HIT SQUAD OFFICER

To add to the dubious pleasure of living in a police free fire zone there is the happy news that the USS Hit squads [cf previous Squat Its] are now active in Footscray... one house that I know of has had 4 visits in 5 days from Field officers of the Mobile Review Team who apart from being indecently early in their visits also refused to conduct [do] interviews at the DSS... any way if these scum grace your door step here's some handy hints [other than the oldie but goldie, 'make em stand in the rain one']

- You have to answer their questions and respond to their letters
- You don't have to let them in to your home
- You don't have to answer their questions immediately
- You can say "please put your questions in writing".
- You can say "I will make an appointment to see you at a location of your choice" (i.e. U.W.U., Welfare Rights, Social Security, etc.)
- **YOU ARE ENTITLED TO GET HELP OR ADVICE** before going to the interview. Contact: The Unemployed Workers Union

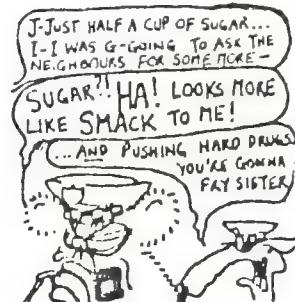
BEHIND THE POLICE



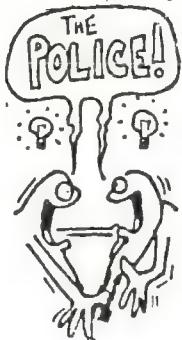
So...have you ever wondered who are the faceless people behind the push for more police powers, where they get their funding from and how you join them well here goes....VOCAL is the victims of crime assistance league, whose patron is that champion of the oppressed the governors wife...donations are tax deductible[if you pay tax] and CIGWELD is obviously having a nice little tax dodge by being their major sponsor... membership is open to everyone except you need the endorsement of 2 members to join however the amount of democracy in the organization is somewhat limited by the fact that there is an executive of 15 and no mention of any membership control of them[they must have an ACM tho' I spouse.]VOCAL works closely with Neighbourhood Watch by providing speakers. They are funded by The Police Credit Co-op for some printing[obviously valuing their political independence greatly]

Local VOCALs are autonomous and Preston seems to be the most active[ph. 484 1440] but is still desperately in need of members[good to see that apathy exists amongst the Fascist constituency too] and VOCAL's main office is at 71 Eastern Rd South melbourne[Ph. 690 1877]. Be warned; VOCAL is stingy-not only don't they not give unemployed concessions but they date subscriptions to June 30th[so don't join now].....

While VOCAL uses victims of crime as it's cover for pro-police propaganda, SOLO[Supporters of Law and Order] is far more straight forward...they are concerned with 'raising standards...educating the young and the promotion of a better society'...whatever that means. SOLO feels it represents the will of the silent majority in it's interpretation of how 'to improve community life and security'. In fact SOLO by promoting fear by statements like 'Out there is a world



POWERS PUSH...



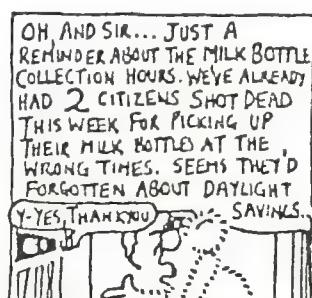
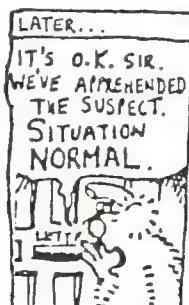
of drugs, theft, rape and murder and vice' is promoting a fortress mentality linked with fortifying homes, ignoring next door's domestic violence and blaming societies prblems on an undefined 'criminal element' which can only be fought by giving the police more powers.

And who supports SOLO...well the level of financial support for major sponsors is \$5,000 a year and 13 companies are specifically listed[which leads one to assume that SOLO receives at least \$65,000 from companies like Coles[who stock Apartheid's goods and Conzinc Riotinto Australia whose sister companies have been condemned in the UN for ripping off Namibia's[South West Africal] natural wealth]..SOLO commends these companies to us....The Committee that runs SOLO includes Bruce Ruxton and a host of people with letters after their names [2 have 15+]:

SOLO has the endorsement of the former police chief who is grateful for the sup-

port and encouragement that SOLO gives the police. Miller interestingly enough saw as part of the police role the protection of social welfare...pity it does not get a mention from SOLO...SOLO costs to join[not even a pensioner concession] and their new office is at 635 Glenferrie Road Hawthorn[the heart of Australia's egalitarian socity] and their phone number is 818 8448

And who provides the muscle for the Law and Order movement...The gun lobby[!] via the Sporting Shooters Association who provided the thugs disguised as marshals who harrassed and assaulted counter demonsrtators at Calm Sunday rally on the 10/4. They were called 'Law abiding citizens' by the organizer of the day...this co-alition between these two groups could only be based on the similarity of their right wing politics as even Terry Lane in The Herald was flabbargasted by their marriage of convienience.....



WHO IS BEHIND THE BRAND NAMES?

MARGARINE

UNILEVER
Miracle, Flora, Becel
Astra, Fairy, Stork

GOODMAN FIELDER WATTIE
Dixie Bell, Mrs McGregor,
Meadow Lea, Eta, Praise

CONFECTIONERY AND SNACKS

CADBURY SCHWEPPES
Dairy Milk, Picnic, Energy
Crunchie, Milk Tray, Museli
Munch, Roses, Freddo, Cherry
Ripe

AMATIL
Smiths Crisps, CCs, Nobbys,
Samboy
Bigs, Lites, Twisters
Cheezies, Pizza Munchies

CONVENIENCE AND FROZEN FOOD

UNILEVER
Continental, Vesta, John West, Sealist

ALLIED LYONS
Tetley

CADBURY SCHWEPPES
Tuckfields

McCAIN
McCain, Copper Kettle

SOFT DRINK

AMATIL
Coca Cola, Diet Coke, Fanta,
Mello Yello, Kirks Mixers,
Marchants, Deep Spring Mineral
Water, Taurina Spa, Bisleri,
Mount Franklin

CADBURY SCHWEPPES
Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Schweppes,
Tarax, Tarino, Hepburn Spa
Mineral Water, Zappie
Solo

LAUNDRY DETERGENT

UNILEVER
Drive, Omo, Rinso, Softly, Surf

COLGATE PALMOLIVE
Spree, Ajax, Cold Power, Fab II,
Gow, Dynamo Concentrate
(bar ket)

PERSONAL PRODUCTS

UNILEVER
Pears, Sunsilk, Clinic, Harmony, Rexona, Impulse, Norsca
Aim, Menage

Based on company information

printed
in the
AGE
MONDAY
2nd MAY
1988.

The Law Doth Punish
Man or Woman
Who Steals the Goose
From Off the Common.
Yet Lets the Greater Felon Loose
Who Steals the Common
From Off the Goose.

We'll give you a hand to improve the environment.



At BP we know all about the environment and how important it is. We are one of the world's largest oil and natural resources groups. Destroying the earth in over 70 countries around the globe.

That might sound odd coming from a company which regularly spends millions trying to convince you how much we care.

But at the end of the day, our business is destruction of the earth. From chopping down the Amazon rainforests to digging up

uranium in Australasia. From providing animal feed for factory farms to designing all sorts of weapons systems.

In fact the only thing we don't do, is care...

And with over 21,000 petrol stations worldwide, we can provide plenty of fuel for your anger.



the quiet achiever.

Housing: A Political Football

IN DECEMBER Flats Fight Back - an Edinburgh tenants organisation that fights for radical change in housing policy - issued a report on the effectiveness of a code of conduct drawn up by them, which was adopted by the council some months earlier. Flats Fight Back has the support of all high rise tenants groups in Edinburgh. The report shows little has changed but the council's acceptance of the code does mark an important victory for tenants, not only in Edinburgh but all tenants and those who believe freedom can only be achieved through working class action and the natural coming together of people demanding control of their own lives.

Tenants in Edinburgh have shown by constant pressure they can, bit by bit, break through the system and start to imprint demands more successfully on the twisted corridors of state power. Flats Fight Back have had many successful local campaigns and have recently completed a video of tenants' action to be used to help existing tenant activists and encourage new ones. They run workshops for tenants to share skills and ideas to gain a stronger front against sub-standard housing and non-tenant participation in policy-making. The workshops also help to make contacts with other tenant activists nationally.

It was at such a workshop that the code of conduct between council landlord and tenant was drawn up due to tenants' anger at the council's practice. Tenants were not being informed of work on their homes; there was no consultation with tenants on the priorities of the work; tenants had no means of getting their views heard; coun-

cillors and officials made promises that turned out incorrect; contractors did work with no notice given to tenants and so on. The code of conduct was a 13 point plan to change this. Tenants demanded that a liaison person be "charged with the responsibility of responding to all tenants groups enquiries on implementation of policy decisions"; that "tenants with-



cisions"; that "tenants within any block should be consulted as to the priorities within that block"; when officials attend public meetings they should know the current position in detail and "tenants should be given at least 2 weeks notice of work on their homes".

BLOOD RED WINE

Acceptance of the code met a declaration of "a historic deal" by one councillor. As with many other such deals all too often the state only 'eats what it can chew and then spits it out, or worse, drinks it down with blood red wine - the monster needs destroying, not feeding'. Flats Fight Back demand the council to state clearly its policy on tenant consultation. "All they do is dictate the terms and say they've consulted" says one tenant in the report which concludes: "We have done all the co-operating so

far, now it's the council's turn" and: "Tenant involvement is at best piece-meal and at worst non-existent". It calls for the code not to be merely a paper exercise and demands positive action with it.

But as usual, housing is a football used to score goals in the game politic where everyone loses and some vote for the referee but can't be heard above the din - the



game won't stop until the spectators run on the pitch. Flats Fight Back should be applauded - the code of conduct is something to hold up against the council when they fail to carry out promises. This can only rouse support from tenant activists for direct action when the coun-

cil fail to stick to the code. Many tenants could be come very angry if the council continues breaking promises in the code of conduct. The report clearly shows this anger. Flats Fight Back also argue that tenants be allowed to improve the housing all round by making decisions on how money should be spent on their homes and the means of contributing to policy and planning - after all it's they who have to live there. Who is a better expert on housing than a tenant?

However, no matter what the council agree to give tenants, where there's power there's control. Until that control is taken by us power will remain with the state. Any working class victory can be seen only partly victorious until there is no state - only workers and community control.



Squatters : A Final Solution?

We have it on good authority that a certain trotskyist Labour council has developed a strategy to rid itself of squatters once and for all. Never mind ancient squatters rights fought for by the dispossessed over centuries, this particular Labour council intends to use a recent Tory law to eliminate the problem.

Our mole has informed us that the council is getting legal advice in order that prominent squatters—especially the 'organised' ones—can be targeted and evicted not through the usual court procedure but as a result of a legal precedent established during the police attack on the 'hippy' convoy. This legal precedent involved the amended Trespass law, applied as part of the Public Order Act. It meant that if one lot of travellers were prosecuted for trespass, another lot with obvious associations could also be summarily dealt with. The argument is that of linkage.

Now the council in question—we cannot name it for fear of revealing our mole—wants to not only use the linkage factor to get rid of squatters—and this is already done more widely through restitution orders—but to evict the squatters via the Public Order Act, on grounds of trespass. The long term aim of the council—and presumably other councils will follow suit—is to eradicate squatting altogether by arguing that most squatting is done through mutual aid and is therefore by association. Already we know of one group of squatters who have received summary execution of an eviction order in this way.

An ancient right is being lost with the consequence that the homeless will be tripled.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

I went to Grand Central Station in New York City to wait for my train back to the Windy City and with the better part of an hour to departure I gravitated to the benches in the waiting room. Sitting there on one of the benches it soon became obvious that I was the only bona fide passenger sitting down: My fellow "train waiters" of all races and sexes had the appearance of having slept in their clothes for many weeks. Most of them carried some sort of scruffy satchel in the hopes of passing themselves off as someone actually waiting to board a train. However a phalanx of New York's Finest keeping close watch over them was ample evidence that they were following no one, and the pervasive smell further shattered any such illusions.

HOMELESS IN N. YORK CITY

While sitting down and hoping the time would not drag too much, a racket ensued several benches behind the one I was sitting on. Arising to see what was going on I saw many of the people making hasty departure from the immediate area of the disturbance. A fight had broken out among some of the homeless which was just another example of the frustration of poverty. Part of the police phalanx moved in to quell the disturbance but not before a considerable crowd of rushing commuters had stopped to see what was going on. Myself having also made a hasty departure from the donnybrook, as I am not the overly adventurous type, could not help but notice the bemused looks on the faces of the otherwise scurrying commuters.

These people who rush to their comfortable suburban homes and who otherwise never seem to notice the homeless panhandler on the streets even when directly confronted, take a moment out from their busy and important lives to smile at the frustration of these poor wretches.

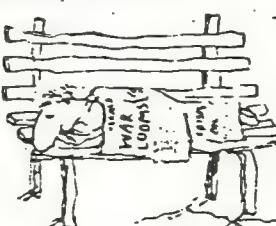
Only the week before I had been invited to join a vigil of artists in front of City Hall in Chicago. It was a candlelight vigil in remembrance of several homeless who died from exposure during the Chicago winter and to impress upon the city officials the need of providing shelter for the homeless during these inclement months.

I was previously a mile further up from City Hall with plenty of time to spare and rather than pay an extra bus fare only to kill time at some hash joint or overpriced gin mill, walking that distance would adequately fill that time gap. Michigan Avenue is one of the most posh shopping districts in Freedoland, but once the stores are closed it looks more like Skid Road judging from the hoards of homeless panhandlers. It is then that the homeless become evident. People of affluence, even if they are of the one-jump-ahead-of-the-bill collector variety, have a miraculous blind spot for those who are worse off than they are. But these poor homeless dudes keep plugging away and every now and then strike themselves a spare change bonanza.

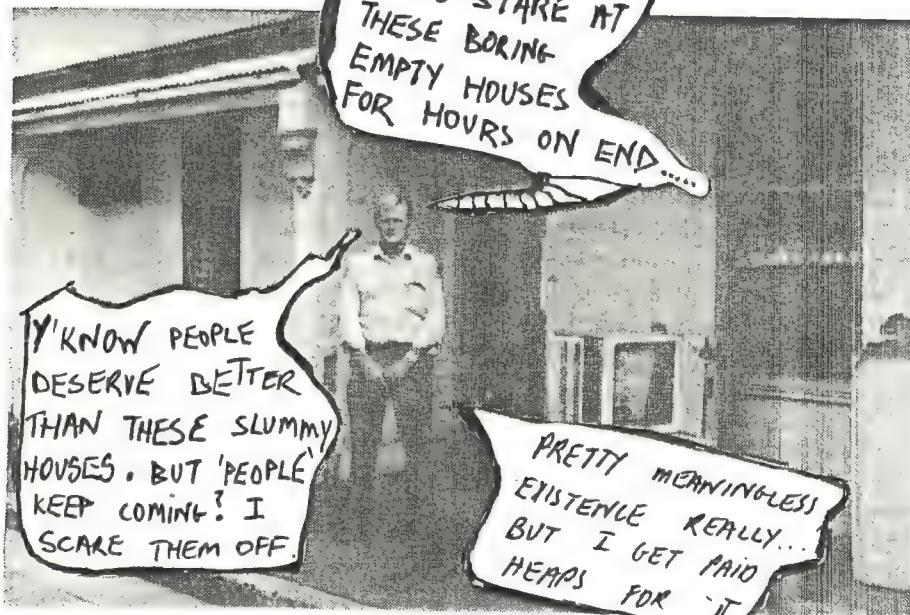
For the most part the office workers and late shoppers are too busy scurrying back to their comfortable homes in the outskirts and at all costs avoid eye contact with the panhandlers. Is it because they might possibly harbor some guilt about their relative affluence? I do not sit behind their eyes so I will not answer for them.

However when they notice the homeless, there is always the look of annoyance on their faces and genuine disturbance. Well may they be disturbed because if they realise it or not, an office that hasn't yet been computerized, a job that has not yet been exported to a country with cheaper labor and a mortgage that has not been foreclosed is the only damn difference between them and the panhandler on the street.

—Punapilvi



A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T



The Mag That Blew Out The Sun!!
SQUAT IT THE SQUATTERS UNION
BI-MONTHLY

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YOU AND



THE LAW!

Most legal systems are based on the protection of property and this means that courts are usually more interested in the rights of property owners than in providing justice for people like the unemployed, homeless or working class.

As a result, squatting is generally "not legal", but it should be remembered that when all said and done, squatting is essentially a political action. In order to change the law and the system, you have to challenge it.

Over the years, Squatters Union experience has shown that GENERALLY squatters have not had many problems; if landowners have taken action, it is only to get their properties back. In only a very small number of squats have the landowners proceeded with legal action.

The best defence for squatters has always been community support and political pressure.

THIS SECTION IS AIMED AT ALERTING SQUATTERS TO SOME OF THE POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR ACTIONS. NO LEGAL ACTION MAY OCCUR, BUT YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT IT CAN!!

When you squat there are two possible areas of legal action — one involving the police, and the other involving the owner of the property.

CRIMINAL CHARGES

(a) Getting into the property

If you are caught getting into the house, or admit to breaking in, you could be charged with:

- possession of house breaking implements
- wilful damage to property
- being on the premises without lawful excuse
- breaking and entering

These are offences under the summary offences act and the vagrancy act and carry maximum penalties of two years jail.

(b) While in the property

Trespass is illegal under both state and commonwealth law.

Generally Section 9(d) of the summary offences act says that any person who **WILFULLY** trespasses and neglects or refuses to leave any place after being warned by the owner, or someone with the owners authority, is guilty of an offence and faces a maximum penalty of \$500 fine, or 6 months jail.

** It should be stressed that the penalties mentioned are **MAXIMUM** penalties. There are a whole range of possibilities open to the court and they usually impose good behavior bonds or small fines, ie. 50-150 dollars.

* N.B. You will only be charged with wilful trespass if you do NOT leave when asked. If you leave when asked (by the owner or their representative) you won't be charged.

The owner can get a writ of possession from the Supreme court — there is no recourse against this and you also get little or no warning of such an eviction. The only redeeming thing about this way of eviction is that it costs the owner a fair bit of money. If you're being evicted in this way try demanding to see the writ to be sure they aren't bluffing you.

THE RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES TRIBUNAL

The owner can make an application for an "order of possession" under Section 131 of the Residential Tenancies Act (1980) because their property has been occupied without his or her consent.

If the landowner was to make such an application the squatter may apply under Section 135 for an order requiring the owner to enter into a tenancy agreement. Section 135 is based on the argument that your hardship would be greater if evicted than the landowners would be if made to enter into a tenancy agreement.

There's a long waiting list for a hearing at the RTT so if you're being evicted this way you'll often get another 2 months out of a squat.

NB: A tactic that still needs to be tested is challenging police eviction on the basis of Section 207 of the Crimes Act referring to forcible entry.

*** Although the RTT is still applicable, these days the police are used in 99.9% of all evictions

YOUR RIGHTS

- * you do NOT have to give your name and address but if you do it may avoid further hassles (we suggest the use of a false name).
- * you do NOT have to go to the police station unless you have been arrested and told what the charge is.
- * you do NOT have to consent to having your fingerprints or photo taken.
- * the police can ONLY search if they suspect you have drugs, stolen goods, or offensive weapons on your person.
- * you are entitled to make a phone call and you should use this chance to contact someone for legal assistance.

* There's a 24 hour legal assistance line called ALPHALINE on 419 7427.

- * You do not have to answer ANY question and can only be kept for 6 hours. (This law isn't going to change until the new year) Just say 'no comment' to all questions except your name and address.

**NB This is still accurate at the time of laying out the article but may change soon with the 'new' (?) police powers legislation... unless we STOP 'em!

*****STOP*****

On the 31st May the Ministry of Housing and Construction (MOHC) made another attempt to crush the Rent Strike which has been going on for 6 months on the Braybrook/Maidstone estate.

In an attempt to side-step the issue of the sub-standard housing (see SQUAT IT #12) the MOHC took a rent striker to the Residential Tenancies Tribunal (RTT) alledging that she was in 'rent arrears'.

The Public Tenants Union (PTU) and the tenants argued that the alleged 'arrears' came about because of a dispute between the tenants of the estate and the MOHC and that the money owing was being withheld (and kept in a 'trust' fund) until the dispute was settled.

PRESS*****

The RTT ignored these facts and insisted the case was one of 'arrears' and would be dealt with as such, prompting the walkout of the tenants and PTU reps, who declared they would return to the estate to encourage more tenants to join the strike and that they will resist any attempts at eviction with all the force they can muster.

SUPPORT, DONATIONS AND/OR INFO
TO: BRAYBROOK/MAIDSTONE PTU
6COMMERCIAL RD
MAIDSTONE
or 2/93 HARGREAVES CRES
BRAYBROOK
Or call: 311 3918



Cluttered scene, cluttered clean
Always part now and then;
with Time awaiting at the end.
How far can you go in the travels to pleasure?
See or be seen, have you been scene,
or seen the essence?

Each scene another, sheet in the rheam,
separate pages to a blueprint of life,
Just like the leaves to the original trees.
Choice is the knife to the slow slice of life,
each cell crumbles below the edge of time.
Knowledge leads to construed success
Or constricted image the bounds to express!

Which brings death blind
unsighted to life
so others can stir
and stem in the leaves
And share with ones the seasons of change.

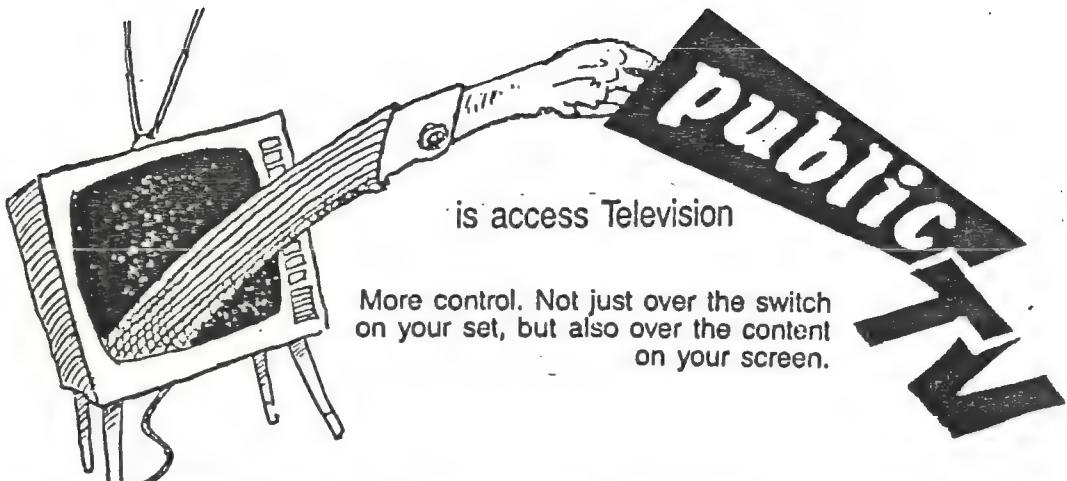
Noodle String.

MOONSHADOW WHISPERS

Genitals shiver, move into warmth
and turn
Heated images of make be true
Chi swells below and grows to soothe
Moon goes Scorpio
and fullness moves
Intrinsically felt
Willed to intravene
External
Motion Sensual
Timely dimensional
Synapse-tickle
Lonely original.

THE ONLY WAY I COULD
GET TO FEEL IN CONTROL
OF 'MY BODY' WAS BY
GETTING CONTROL OF
OTHER PEOPLE'S BODIES.
WOMEN'S BODIES....





is access Television

More control. Not just over the switch on your set, but also over the content on your screen.

As a dedicated hater of television it was with a cynical curiosity that I began looking into the idea of public tv. The possibility of something other than boring mainstream shit on the box was almost too much to cope with. That television could be relevant to me

Given the current structure of mainstream media, the concept of an independent local tv station that encourages community input is amazing. Currently the only form of control you have over the box, apart from turning it off, is that form you're supposed to stick in a ballot box once every 3 years. It's a bit scary when you realise that the most powerful tool for communication and opinion forming in our society is controlled by a rich few, and we allready know what they want us to think - or not think, as is more to the point. Shows democracy up as a bit of a farce doesn't it?

Community tele aims to rectify this situation by enabling poublc access to tv and encouraging input from all members of the community. Television Unlimited claims it is owned, operated and controlled by the community of viewers that receive it and shows programs that are relevant to and made by the community. As such the group relies upon the support and involvement of its audience.

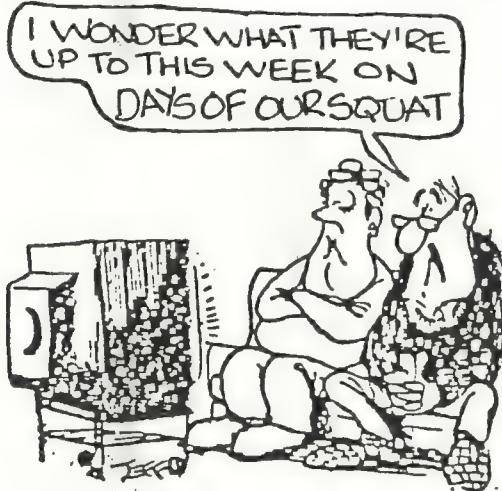
TVU will be a low powered local station aimed at the inner western and northern suburbs. Because it doesn't have to cater to a mass audience it can avoid the bland mainstream meaninglessness available on all of the other channels (well ok except for the abc sometimes when those generous govt grants don't ensure

total censorship) It can be specific and innovative in its programming and show stuff that reflects the needs and interests of its audience. I mean it would be a nice change to watch something that you could relate to. Anything is better than the current setup where programmers obviously think the main aim in life of most young people is to have the social life of kylie minogue.

Currently tvu is preparing for its first test transmission, step one in the series of hoop jumping routines designed to satisfy the govt you're worthy of a licence. This test however will only be transmitted to the western suburbs, essendon out to williamstown, due to a dispute with the dept of communications. You can pick up tvu on channel 47 uhf - or at least those with a tv and one that can pick up uhf at that. The test will be from june 5 - 11, 6 hours a night and will give the west a chance to see what tvu is all about. feedback from the audience will be encouraged to see whether in fact the service does cater to their needs and interests. The test should also increase public awareness and encourage community participation in the group.

And surprisingly enough there is a lot of scope for it. There appears a definite commitment within tvu to opening up and demystifying the tv to enable public access to it. The lower level of technology used and the structure of the group also encourages all interested groups, even those without experience to become involved. Groups are invited to become part of the organisation and have input into its operations. they will also be encouraged to initiate, produce and present programs of their own.

Of course the whole idea of access is a bit of a farce if the skills and resources aren't made freely available to interested people. There are plans to establish a resource base and skills workshops, available to all groups regardless of their politics, size or bank account balance. Sounds great, but it still remains to be seen. It appears that tvu does have a commitment to the ideal of community access that could enable real public control over what we watch - at least on one channel. But the community needs to get involved to ensure that this becomes a reality. We need to be involved to ensure our views are expressed and tvu is representative of its audience - and not just those with skills and experience in tv production. It would be a real shame to see tvu available only for the exclusive use of yuppie media students, effectively making a farce of the whole concept of public access.



So how to get involved? Meetings are held on the first Monday of every month, 7pm at 13 Victoria St Fitzroy. These meetings discuss the operations of tvu and are open to the public. Or you can contact them and suss it out yourself on 4195111. The potential of public tele could be pretty amazing. If community groups are able to present their ideas on real issues, at least its one way of showing an alternative to what bondy and murdoch want the public to think. If anyone is interested in getting involved if they could call up the SU we may be able to get a group of us together.

Will real life make it onto the tele?
Can the general public cope?
all this and more in the next exciting episode.....



Liberal Lies...

It's been a long time since the Libs have tried to pretend they care about homeless people....but with the scent of a state election they're issuing press releases like snow in iceland....

According to Hayward, the opposition spokething for housing there are over 500 MOH units that have been empty for more than 6 moth[*Footscray Times 11/5*] well...suprise,suprise...the SUV and other housing groups have been saying the same thing for years but then these private school lads are pretty slow learners..

Anyway,Mr. Hayward wants people to send in the addresses of these empties to the Liberal Party Empty House watch at Parliament house where presumably they'll be filed away and forgotten for another 6 months...If you want to see these houses put to use though, calling the Squatters Union would probably do more...

Talking of the Liberal party, many Squat It readers will have fond memories of Mr Geoff Leigh,MP for Malvern... well Leigh has now slimed his way to become Liberal Party Whip[with a pay rise too!] but his concern for the poor in his electorate continues unabated...In a press release dated 7/4 that Squat it procured he slams the government for providing \$800 for a group of people to practise grafitti..."the governmnet should not be providing funds to conduct lessons on the subject"as"[grafitti] has become a major problem to the community". Well in this case [and almost every other one one too] Mr Leigh has got it wrong.

The community [the Prahran High Rise flats actually asked the local rap artists to brighten up some walls on the estate... with for a change a bit of money for these direct action based artists rather than the usual harrassment they get from the pigs...Mr Leigh's circle of friend in 'modest' Malvern may not realize it but most of the community likes the colourful graffitti that now brightens up our days...it's heaps better then grey concrete in any case....



A Blaze of outrage

In November 1987 the New South Wales Government under the guidance of Premier Barrie Unsworth set up a '40 Man Police team' to investigate the activities of "a secret group of paedophiles who are campaigning for the legislation of consensual sex between children and Adults". Since then numerous police raids, harassment and arrests have taken place. Paedophiles have been arrested and charged with such things as 'goods in custody', malicious damage to a shed door and many other farcical charges which require time and money on the part of the people involved to prove their innocence. More recently a new government has come to power in New South Wales under the leadership of Liberal Premier Nick Greiner so the '40 man paedophile squad' is having to prove it's worth. In recent weeks 3 core members of BLAZE have been arrested and charged with charges ranging from 'attempt to incite a minor to an act of indecency' to 'child abuse' and 'homosexual intercourse'. One of these men is currently in Long Bay Prison one other looks likely to be going there soon and the other man hardly knows the 13 year old boy involved. The boy was taken into police custody at 9am and interrogated until 10pm that night he spent a



couple of hours asleep on a desk and was asked lots of questions, not long before he left he was asked to sign an eleven page statement which he did; however he doesn't know what was in the statement because he didn't have his glasses with him.

The men involved in this case are all very poor and do not have the money to pay for legal representation they can not get legal aid. They need your help. Their arrests are politically based and the boy involved can legally do nothing to stop the charges going ahead.

Donations of any sum of money can be sent to :

BLAZE FIGHTING FUND

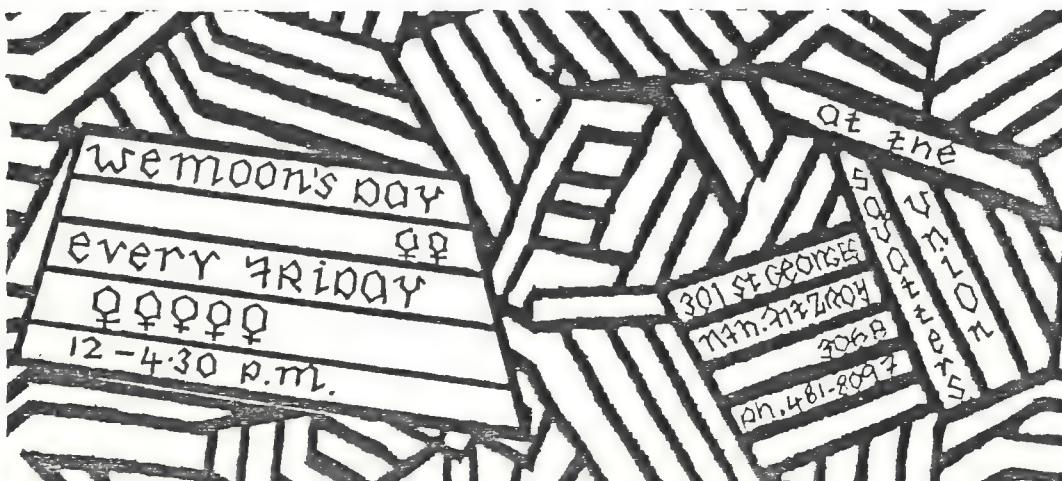
P.O. Box M231
Strawberry Hills
N.S.W. 2012

Your help and support are needed.



A Sexual Revolution begins with the emancipation of Women, who are the chief victims of patriarchy and also with the ending of homosexual oppression. Part of the patriarchal family structure involves the control of the sexual life of children; indeed the control of children totally. Children have virtually no rights guaranteed by law in our society.

KATE MILLETT





CHORUS :

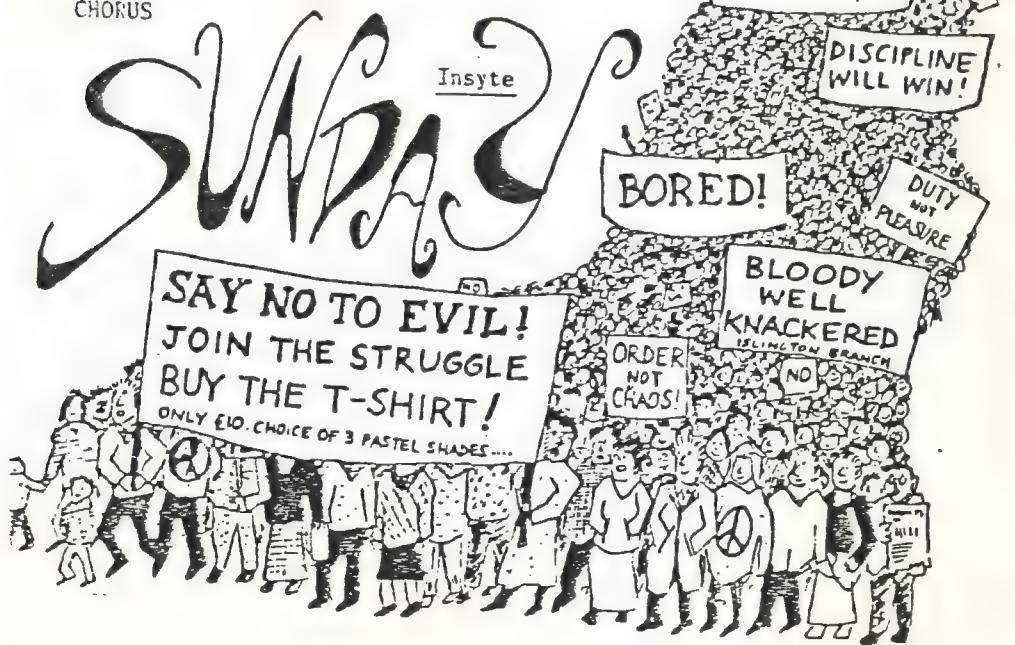
Palm Sunday, year after year
Drink your Coke and shed a tear.
Swallow the bullshit and dutifully pray
That some government will listen to you some day.

McDonald's stores go unmolested,
Police authority remains untested.
They fear nothing from this pretentious parade
As they watch us act out our usual charade.

CHORUS

The festival air reeks of meat.
You can't apply your peace to what you eat.
It's so easy to show that you care,
Meat is murder so it shouldn't be there.

CHORUS





What's wrong with McDonald's?

Behind the cheerful smiling face of Ronald McDonald there lurks a horrible secret - the world-wide exploitation of people, animals, and the earth. To most people, especially children, McDonalds is just a bit of fun & a convenient place to eat. But the truth is far from funny, and once you have read this leaflet you'll never want to go into a burger bar again.

► **Starving the poor.** McDonalds owns vast tracts of land in poor countries like Costa Rica. While millions go undernourished, staple crops are fed to cattle for turning into burgers in the 'developed world' - a process known as 'hamburgerisation'. Animals consume much more grain than humans: 145 million tons fed to livestock produces only 21 million tons of meat and by-products. On a vegetarian diet Britain could easily be self-sufficient in food, but 90% of our land is used for livestock and we even imported food from Ethiopia during the famine there. It is no exaggeration to say that when you bite into a Big Mac you are stealing from the mouths of the hungry.

► **Raping the earth.** The world's beautiful rainforests are being destroyed at an appalling rate by companies like McDonalds and Burger King, who use lethal poisons to clear the jungle for cattle ranching. There are 100,000 cattle ranches in Amazonia, and it takes 800 sq. miles of forest just to keep McDonalds supplied with paper for one year. An area of forest the size of Wales is felled every month. Loss of forest cover means rain sweeps in floods down the treeless valleys, causing soil erosion and desert within 5 years. This process causes at least one species of plant or animal to become extinct every four hours. Moreover, tribal peoples who've lived peacefully in the forests for thousands of years are being forced off their lands.

► **Ruining your health.** McDonalds' food is high in animal fat, sugar and salt, and low in fibre; precisely the sort of diet which in numerous reports has been linked to heart disease, cancer, diabetes and arthritis. It's also full of chemical additives (to disguise the awful taste) which, it is estimated, cause 1300 cancer deaths per year in Britain. Junk food produces obesity because although high in calories, it lacks bulk and hence induces overeating, possibly leading to food poisoning, as meat is responsible for 70%

of such incidents, with chicken and minced meat (as used in burgers) being the worst offenders.

► **Exploiting their employees.** For workers in McDonalds and other burger chains pay is low and conditions bad (staff turnover is 80%). A recent survey of their staff wanted trade unions, yet McDonalds has always resisted this, except in Sweden, and Dublin after a long struggle. Most of their workers are under 21 and black, people with little chance of finding alternative jobs - an endless source of cheap labour.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Stop using McDonalds and all other burger bars who are involved in the types of exploitation already described. There are many wholefood/vegetarian shops and restaurants that sell excellent healthy food. Using them or growing your own veg (there are over 700,000 allotments in Britain), and preparing healthy food and sharing good meals, has a political importance too: it is part of the process of ordinary people taking control of their own lives to create a better society, without exploitation.

► **Slaughtering the innocent.** McDonalds' menu is based upon the murder of millions of animals. Their deaths are barbaric - 'humane slaughter' is a myth. A Farm Animal Welfare Council report criticized every aspect of the procedure, from transportation to killing, where inefficient stunning often results in animals having their throats cut while still fully conscious. We have the choice to eat meat or not, but the 500 million animals massacred for food in Britain each year have no choice at all. Could you yourself kill the animals that McDonalds puts in its food.



The Squatter's Union of Victoria
REQUESTS....

the Reader's Indulgence and
Forbearance, in Attempting to,
or succeeding in, the Completion, or
part-Completion, and Return of
this Mystical Excursion into the
Realm of....



the Quest^{ionnaire}

Some easy-to-answer questions-fun for the whole squat!

1. Why on earth are you squatting?
2. what area?
3. How long have you been there?
4. What's your age and gender?
5. Are you unemployed, waged; a student, dependant or rolling in money?
6. What's your favorite colour nail polish?
7. How did you find the house you are squatting?
8. Is your squat
 - (a)government-owned
 - (b)owned by developers or some sort of company \$\$\$
 - (c)privately-owned
 - (d)deceased estate
 - (e)don't know
 - (f)don't fucken care,neither.
9. Does the owner know you're there?
10. How did s/he find out?
11. Have made any agreement with the owner?
If so is it
 - (a)verbal
 - (b)written?
12. Can you trust the slime?

Leading questions...

13. If you were evicted,(a)would you have somewhere to go?
(b)are there people around who you can rely on to help?
14. Do you know your legal rights when the filth turn up?Do you think it'll make any difference?

Your image...

15. What sort of relationship do you have with your neighbours and within the local community?Do you think people are aware that you are squatting?

The Hard Word

16. Are you currently active in the S.U.?
- i. Were you previously active in the union?
- ii. Do you think you might get active in the future?
- OR iii. Are you waiting for us to break down your door and drag you away?
17. If you chose 16i., what were your reasons for withdrawing?

Remember us?

18. How did you originally find out about the S.U.?
19. Do you regularly read Squat-It?
20. Where do you usually pick them up from?
21. Do you listen to our radio show, Squatters On Air? (3CR Fridays, 11.30a.m.)
22. Is there anything you want to add which might be of use to us?

DIVULGE ALL...

Rest assured, all information from this questionnaire will be given in the strictest confidence to your local Neighbourhood Watch Zone Leader.

You can address or deliver this questionnaire to: Squatters' Union of Victoria
301 St Georges Rd,
N.Fitzroy, 3068.

STRANGE DAY.

The anti-Anzac march ended up consisting of about 20 womyn chanting and trying to get the message that WAR IS NOT TO BE GLORIFIED AND IDOLIZED across. However, a group of skinheads thought otherwise.

They waved the Australian flag and yelled obscenities and abuse at us, because that's all their brains seemed to be able to cope with.

They hate the Asians, the ethnics, the lesbians, the hippies, but they LOVE their flag. Yes, they want to kill for it. They were a much more painful sight than the police (and that's something!).

They wanted our throats and the confused police actually helped keeping the peace.



NO TO NATIONALISM —
— NO TO THE MYTHS!!!

**"I'm from the
government..."**



I'm here to help you."